Message Text

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R 171542Z FEB 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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FOLLOWING REPEAT BRUSSELS 02864 ACTION STATE INFO ALL EC CAPITALS FEB 15.

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 2864

USEEC

GENEVA FOR MTN

PARIS FOR USOECD

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, JA

SUBJ: EC REACTION TO USHIBA'S REMARKS

1. COMMISSION DESK OFF FOR JAAN CONFIRMS THAT EC DIRGEN FOR FON RELATIONS, SIR ROY DENMAN, CALLED IN JAPANESE DCM TO EXPRESS CONSIDERABLE SURPRISE OVER REMARKS MADE BY MAPANESE MIN USHIBA AT TOKYO HARVARD CLUB AND REPORTED IN INT'L PRESS. COMMISSION SOURCE NOTED THAT USHIBA'S REMARKS, EVEN IF HE HAD NOT EXPECTED TO HAVE THEM REPORTED, WERE EXTRA-ORDINARILY INDELICATE AND WOULD COMPLICATE COMMISSION DEALINGS WITH MEMBER STATES ON JAPANESE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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QUESTIONS.

2. DANMAN REPORTEDLY PROTESTED IN PARTICULAR USHIBA'S REMARKS WHICH QUESTIONED COMMISSION'S COMPETENCE TO SPEAK AND NEGOTIATE FOR THE COMMUNITY. HE ALSO TOOK ISSUE WITH USHIBA'S OBSERVATION THAT EC WAS ASKING JAPAN TO COMPRESS INTO ONE MONTH A PROCESS WHICH HAD BEEN DEVELOPED OVER SEVERAL MONTHS IN CONVERSATIONS

WITH US. DENMAN ALLEGEDLY REMINDED JAPANESE THAT ISSUES HAD FIRST BEEN RAISED WITH USHIBA IN DEC WHEN HE CAME TO BRUSSELS AFTER WASHINGTON VISIT, AND THAT JAPANESE CAN HARDLY CLAIM SUPRISE AS A RESULT OF COUNCIL ACTION AND DIRECTIVE TO COMISSION AT FEB 7 COUNCIL. HINTON UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

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